

**UNKNOWN FOREIGN SUBSTANCE (FSUB)
OR
SAMPLE GRADE FACTORS**

1. When feed grain is being exported to Mexico and green dye is applied to the grain, does the green dye function as FSUB when the treated grain is returned to the elevator and offered for the same export shipment?

ANSWER. No. Knowing the source of the substance and reasons for its application it is unnecessary to penalize the shipper at the time of the local transfer or re-elevation and subsequent inspection.

NOTE: If the re-elevated grain containing green-dyed kernels is intended for the export shipment from which it came, consider the green-dyed kernels as FSUB.

2. If a sample contains more than one sample grade odor which odor applies?

ANSWER. If more than one sample grade odor is detectable, report or certify all odors detected.

3. What does grain treated with Zeolite function as?

ANSWER. Distinctly low quality and graded U.S. Sample grade.

NOTE: Zeolite has been used in grain as a moisture absorbent in an attempt to lower the moisture level in newly harvested wheat. Like diatomaceous earth, Zeolite adheres to the grain and causes problems with test weight. Most of the substance is removed in dockage but some residue remains on the kernels and restricts grain flow and compaction resulting in lower test weight.

4. When determining sample grade, due to the presence of animal filth (count), do deer pellets function as the same as other types (e.g., rodent pellets, bird droppings) of animal filth?

ANSWER. No, because whole deer pellets are distinctly larger than rodent pellets or bird droppings, one or more deer pellets would make the sample distinctly low quality.

5. Is insect (e.g. grasshopper, cricket) excreta considered as animal filth? If not, should it be considered as part of the assessment criteria for Sample Grade/DLQ?

ANSWER. Insect excreta is not considered “animal filth.” At present, animal filth is limited to bird/rodent excreta, deer/elk droppings, and the like. Currently in grain, insect excreta only functions as dockage or foreign material. However, in processed peas, edible beans, and lentils, if 2 or more insect excreta are found in the sample it is considered Sample grade/DLQ. Also, in edible beans, when 2 or more beans are found to contain insect excreta it is considered Sample grade due to “insect webbing or filth.”

6. Occasionally, lots of grain (usually soybeans) contain feed pellets, and as a result, have a feed pellet odor. Is a sample containing a feed pellet odor considered okay or COFO?

ANSWER. Samples containing a strong (distinct) feed pellet odor are considered to have a commercially objectionable foreign odor.

NOTE: Samples containing a partial feed pellet odor, whereby the natural odor is not masked, are not considered to have a commercially objectionable foreign odor. Other degrading odors will be applied if present (i.e., musty, sour).

7. What does coal function as when found in a sample?

ANSWER. Unknown Foreign Substance (FSUB).

(Updated 06/28/2006)